

LIBRARY PROGRAMMING POLICY

Purpose

Library programs are an integral part of Kendall Young Library's mission to provide access to information, encourage lifelong learning, and strengthen community engagement. Programs complement traditional library services by highlighting collections and resources, promoting literacy and learning, fostering creativity and discussion, and providing opportunities for cultural, educational, recreational, and civic enrichment. Programs are designed to serve a wide range of ages, interests, backgrounds, and abilities while encouraging both new and existing users to engage with the Library.

Program Goals

Library programs are intended to further the mission of the Library and may serve one or more of the following purposes:

- Promote literacy, lifelong learning, and the use of library resources and services
- Provide educational, cultural, recreational, and civic enrichment opportunities
- Encourage creativity, exploration, discussion, and the exchange of ideas
- Reflect community interests, needs, and current topics of interest
- Serve diverse audiences and increase access for underserved populations
- Foster awareness and appreciation of literature, culture, technology, health, history, and current events

Programs may be developed for specific age groups or audiences, including children, teens, adults, families, or specialized community groups.

Intellectual Freedom

In keeping with the principles of intellectual freedom, the Library does not exclude programs, presenters, or topics because of possible controversy or differing viewpoints. Library sponsorship of a program does not constitute an endorsement of the content presented or the views expressed by presenters, performers, partners, or participants.

Program Access and Registration

Library programs are open to the public and generally offered free of charge. Fees may occasionally be charged to help offset the cost of materials, supplies, presenters, or other program-related expenses.

Advance registration may be required for planning purposes, supply preparation, or space limitations. Attendance at some programs may be limited based on room capacity, age appropriateness, safety considerations, or program format.

The Library strives to make programs accessible to all participants. Individuals needing accommodations are encouraged to contact the Library in advance whenever possible so reasonable accommodations may be arranged.

Partnerships and Presenters

The Library may collaborate with community organizations, educational institutions, cultural groups, businesses, agencies, or individuals to develop and present programs that support the Library's mission and strategic goals.

Professional presenters, performers, and instructors may be hired based on demonstrated expertise, qualifications, or experience related to the program topic.

Co-sponsored programs and partnerships shall be developed in a manner consistent with the Library's mission, policies, and programming objectives.

Sales and Solicitation

Commercial sales, solicitation, or promotion of products and services are generally prohibited during library programs. Exceptions may be approved by the Library Director for authors, artists, performers, or presenters selling books, artwork, or materials directly related to the program. Approved presenters are solely responsible for the handling of all sales transactions.

Alcohol at Library Programs

Alcoholic beverages may only be permitted at Library-sponsored events approved by the Library Board of Trustees or Library administration and must comply with all applicable laws and regulations. Consumption shall be limited to designated areas and approved events.

Library-sponsored programs or events held at off-site venues where alcohol is served may be limited to participants age 21 and older.

Patron Conduct

Participants attending library programs are expected to comply with the Library's Patron Conduct Policy. The Library reserves the right to deny or discontinue attendance to any individual whose behavior is disruptive, unsafe, threatening, harassing, or otherwise interferes with the successful operation of a program or the enjoyment of others.

Photography and Recordings

Participation in Library programs and events constitutes permission for the Library to use photographs or video recordings for promotional, educational, archival, or evaluation purposes unless the participant, parent, or legal guardian submits a written request stating they do not wish to be photographed or recorded. The Library will make reasonable efforts to honor such requests.

Program Changes and Cancellations

The Library reserves the right to cancel, reschedule, relocate, or modify programs due to unforeseen circumstances, weather conditions, safety concerns, presenter availability, low registration, or other operational considerations.

Approved by the Kendall Young Library Board of Trustees: May 15, 2023

Amended: June 15, 2026